

BLESSED JOHN XXIII PARISH
3390 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3K 0Z3
Office Telephone: 832-7175 ----Fax: 885-2447
Parish Website: www.johnxxiii.ca

Father Gerald Langevin, Pastor Office e-mail: glangevin@johnxxiii.ca Deacon Gary McCallum - Pastoral Assistant Kitty Piper - Parish Secretary Office e-mail: kitty@johnxxiii.ca	832-7335 (Office) 832-7206 (Office) 832-7175 (Office)	889-8465 (Rectory) 889-6546 (Home)
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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 7, 2010

MASS INTENTIONS – MARCH 6 – 14, 2010

5:00 pm Saturday (6th)	†Victorina Alberto req. The Tualla Family
9:00 am Sunday (7th)	For all our Parishioners' Intentions
1:00 pm Sunday (7th)	†Deceased Family Members req. Doug McKay & Family
	NO MORNING MASS ON MONDAY, MARCH 8th
9:15 am Tuesday (9 th)	†Deceased Family Members req. Lydia Watson & Family
*** 5:30 pm Tuesday (9th)	†Joseph Downey req. Margaret Downey
9:15 am Wednesday (10 th)	†Magdalene Chelle req. St. James Knights of Columbus
*** 5:30 pm Wednesday (10th)	†Cordelia Sibrian req. Margaret Downey
9:15 am Thursday (11 th)	Special Intention Angela Kalichak req. Robertson Family
*** 5:30 pm Thursday (11th)	†Deceased Members of the Neskar Family req. Mary Nicholson
9:15 am Friday (12 th)	†Baby Maira Fleury req. Paul Swart Family
	<u>Monthly Mass at Sturgeon Creek II</u>
*** 5:30 pm Friday (12th)	†George Czyzewski req. Marnie & Bob Puchniak
5:00 pm Saturday (13th)	For the Csizmadia Family req. Connie & Steve Csizmadia
9:00 am Sunday (14th)	For all our Parishioners' Intentions
1:00 pm Sunday (14th)	†Arthur Stuart McNaughtan req. Edith McNaughtan

What's Happening This Week

*** Please remember: There is a 5:30 pm Mass Tuesday - Friday during Lent. Following the Friday evening Mass there will be Stations of the Cross.

Scripture Study	Tuesday, March 9	10:00 am	Room 10
Grace Hospital Visitors Mtg:	Wednesday, March 10	7:00 pm	Room 10
Parish Pastoral Council Mtg:	Thursday, March 11	7:15 pm	Rectory
Rummage Sale:	Friday, March 12	6:00 - 7:30 pm	Gymnasium

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 7, 2010

Liturgy of the Word:

One of the constant themes of the season of Lent is the opportunity for all to repent and return to the Lord.

The First Reading tells of God's appearance to Moses at the burning bush. God says He is to be known as *I Am*. In the revelation of His nature, as a God of compassion and liberation, God makes known His tenderness and care for us. In entrusting His name to us, God assures His people that when they call upon Him, He is present in compassion and power.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul tells the Church at Corinth (and us) that our ancestor's experience in the desert under Moses is recorded to instruct us; we are to learn from our ancestors in faith and be true to God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus counters the common belief that suffering is the measure of punishment deserved. Disasters do not invade our lives as divine retribution for sin, yet disasters do remind us of life's frailty and of our need to remain in right relationship with God. Jesus uses the parable of the barren fig tree to teach a lesson on the depths of God's mercy, love and forgiveness. The Lord's patience with us, the gift of time, provides opportunities for us to bear good fruit. We recognize that the Lord is truly kind and merciful, but it is up to us to repent and return to Him. *(Adapted from The Sourcebook and Faith Catholic Commentaries & Homilies)*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Liturgy Meeting...On Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Ted Wakeman room, I'd like to have a liturgy meeting. Ideally, it would be helpful if there were representatives from each of the parish weekend liturgies, Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am, and Sunday 1:00 pm. Choir members, sacristans, readers, lectors, and ushers (hospitality) are all welcome. As we journey towards Easter and address the Liturgical Renewal in the parish, it is important that we have time to dialogue about any changes to the liturgy that will be taking place. The next session for the Liturgical Renewal will be on Saturday, March 20 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. This will take place upstairs in the worship area. All are welcome.

RCIA... For two of the next three weeks, I will be in attendance at the 11:15 Mass at St. Paul the Apostle to concelebrate with Fr. Mark Tarrant during the scrutinies for the Elect in preparation for the Easter Sacraments. Please continue to pray for our catechumen, Precious Hurst, and our candidate for full communion, Erin Fulford, as they take important steps towards Easter. Traditionally, the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent are reserved for the scrutinies as the Elect prepare for baptism. May this time of purification and enlightenment also enable our own personal growth and renewal. *(Fr. Gerald)*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Aline Herner; Madeleine Dusessoy; Ruth Kuch; Karen Kirkpatrick; Lloyd Moist; Bert Whitnack; Marlene Scheffler; Allan Egan; Eleanor Kapitany; Stella James; Dolores Mulaire; Adelle Farkas; Shirley Payment; Jean Foley; Darcy Uzelman; Jack Krassie; Andre Meyer; Joan Nevins; Elsie Mason; Joe Lebedeff; Doug Rosler; Louis Gollets; Anne Luhowy; Gladys Barton; Pat Phillips;

Enclosed with your bulletin this weekend is a schedule of the Penance/Reconciliation Services taking place in our Deanery this month. Please post at home for quick reference. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered in our parish on **Thursday, March 25th** from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

The St. James Knights of Columbus have teamed up with *Development & Peace* again this year to bring you the **5th Annual Fish and Loaves Meal** at Blessed John XXIII Parish. The date is **Friday, March 19th** beginning with Mass at 5:30 pm, then Stations of the Cross with Fr. Gerald presiding, followed by the meal downstairs in the hall. The cost is \$5.00 per person. All monies realized goes to *Development & Peace*. Tickets will be available after each Mass in the Narthex. Let us all come together to experience this Lenten devotion and share in some fellowship. All are welcome. For more information call Paul Swart at 885-2588.

The St. James Knights of Columbus are pleased to sponsor a presentation on the topic of Prostrate Cancer presented by Mr. Norm Oman. The event takes place here at Blessed John XIII Parish on **Monday, March 8** at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

URGENT APPEAL! We require one or two people to organize the next meal at the **Immaculate Conception Drop-in Centre on Sunday, April 18th**. The parish has sponsored these meals for the poor of our city for several years; however, if we don't find a replacement for our long-time coordinators for the April meal, then we will have to cancel. We always have enough volunteers to cook the casseroles, but this time round we need one or two people to coordinate the event. If you are willing to take on this ministry to the poor for this particular dinner, please contact Alice or Ray Fleury (889-2660) as soon as possible.

Justice, Development and Peace Reflection: During our Fall campaign, we showed how the spread of agrofuel crop plantations in the Global South leads to the loss of land and livelihoods for small-scale farmers. In the Choco region of Colombia, for example, small rural communities have been persecuted, their houses burnt to the ground, and family members assassinated to clear land for these plantations. Our Colombian partner, *Justice and Peace*, helps them reclaim their land and their rights. "Thanks to *Justice and Peace*, we have some peace," say community members.

Monthly Collections Report:

	Actual:	Same Period Last Year:
February, 2010	\$20,705 (4 weeks)	\$19,600 (4 weeks)
Year to date, 2010	\$40,821 (8 weeks)	\$42,440 (8 weeks)

Rummage Sale: Our next sale will be on **Friday, March 12, 6:00-7:30 pm**. Workers will be needed in the morning for set-up and in the evening during the sale. We will now gladly accept articles for sale, especially Jewellery. Perhaps it's a bit early for Spring cleaning, but please remember us when you decide to dispose of your re-saleable items.

Stewardship Reflection: God heard the cry of His people in Egypt and responded generously by bringing them out of captivity. But in the desert the Israelites began complaining to Moses. They

were not grateful for the gift of their freedom – *a grateful heart silences a complaining voice!* We good stewards pray that we will always be grateful for the gifts and opportunities that we are given. When we are at times not grateful, when we are overcome with an unhealthy lust for material things, power, or prestige, we are called to repent, and we are grateful for the Lord's mercy.

(Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca)

Winnipeg Harvest Appeal: Canned Spaghetti or Ravioli

Director of Youth Ministry: The Archdiocese of Winnipeg invites applications for the position of Director of Youth Ministry, duties to commence August 1, 2010. As part of the Pastoral Team, the Director provides direction, resources and counsel on formation of ministry with youth. The successful candidate should possess a strong commitment to and understanding of the Catholic Faith. If you have excellent interpersonal and organizational skills, an attitude of service and hospitality, flexibility, initiative and dedication, then you are asked to submit your resume in writing or by email, with the names of three references including your pastor, in confidence by **March 31, 2010** to: Human Resources, Archdiocese of Winnipeg, 1495 Pembina Hwy., Winnipeg, MB R3T 2C6 or humanresources@archwinnipeg.ca. A detailed job description is posted on the bulletin board at the north and south entrances to the building.

Coming Events at St. Benedict's Retreat and Conference Centre, 225 Masters Ave., W. St. Paul
Wednesday, March 17: Blessed Work: Spend the day reflecting on this part of everyone's daily life, led by Marie Baker, OSB, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. \$35 with lunch.

March 19 - 21: Deepening Centering Prayer Retreat

Call 339-1705 to register or go online for details at www.stbens.ca